



COLOR

guide

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GUIDE

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Color can have a profound impact on your mood and emotions and it is a very powerful transformative interior decorating tool.

Choosing a color palette is an essential part of interior decorating and considering the right colors for any room big or small can make all the difference. While you could have a different style and color scheme in each room you want a balance of warm and cool colors. So if you are planning to re-decorate and introduce new colors into your home this coming spring/summer season. You will need a thorough understanding of color and how it can impact your living spaces.



WARM colors are colors with warm undertones such as red-orange, reds, yellows, and yellow-greens. These colors are radiant and cozy. Because warm colors seem to advance, they make small rooms appear smaller and large rooms more intimate. If you have a huge bedroom that you want to look more intimate, try painting it a warm color such as terra-cotta or brown to make it feel cozier.

COOL colors are colors with cool undertones and include purples, blues, and blue-greens. These colors can have a calming effect. In a room, cool colors appear to recede, making a room appear larger. Because these tones can make a room feel colder, these colors work well in a sunny room and may not be as comforting in a room with little natural light.

NEUTRAL COLORS or non-colors are technically only white, gray and black, but in decorating, neutral colors have a wider definition and encompass a large range of colors. In decorating, grays and blacks have either warm or cool undertones and typically fall into one of the two categories above

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Cool colors are typically blue, green, and light purple. They can calm and soothe. Where warm colors remind you of heat and sunshine, cool colors remind you of water and sky, even ice and snow. Unlike warm colors, cool colors look as though they recede, making them great for small rooms that you want to appear larger. If you have a tiny bedroom or bathroom room that you want to enlarge visually, try painting a color such as light blue to make it appear more spacious.

Primary colors, like blue, yellow and red can be a stark reminder of primary school art class. But that does not mean that you can not use them. The trick is not to go overboard. To create a mature look with primary colors, try and mix them with warm tones, like natural fibers and textures.

BLUES are a popular choice for bedrooms because it is relaxing, soothing, and calming. Blues can also improve our focus and productivity, so a calming blue might be the right choice for an office or child's study area. Blue is also considered to be a clean color, so it works well in bathrooms and laundry areas. However, dark blues can bring about feelings of sadness. But be careful with blues as it also can appear a little chilly, especially in rooms with little or no natural light. It is best to use blues with a warm or muted tones in rooms with no natural light.

RED is associated with passion and energy, as well as being a bit racy. Red can raise our energy levels and it has been shown to increase blood pressure and heart rate. But it can also stimulate our appetites and increase conversation. So, if you would like to paint your bedroom or living room red, opt for muted, rich red tones that will give your rooms a softer and more elegant look.

YELLOW makes many people feel cheerful, energetic, and happy. The brighter shades of yellow can cause fatigue and anxiety if it is overused. Soft, buttery yellows are easier to live with and easier on the eyes. It is also more calming than bright yellows. Yellow reflects light and is a perfect pick for poorly lit rooms, and especially ceilings.

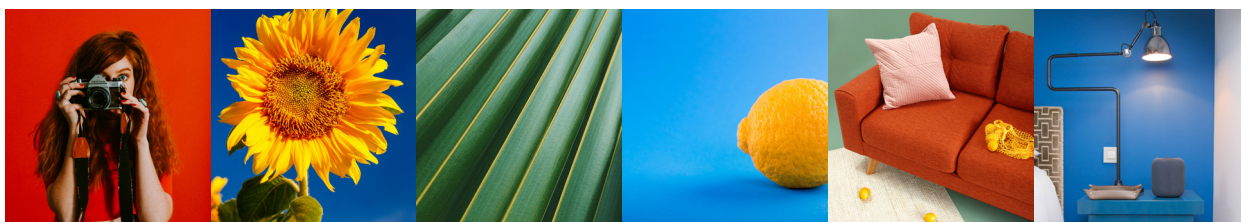
Keep your whites crisp, a white with a gray or blue undertone is perfect to open up your spaces. Try to avoid whites with a yellow undertone as it will warm up your space and make it feel smaller.

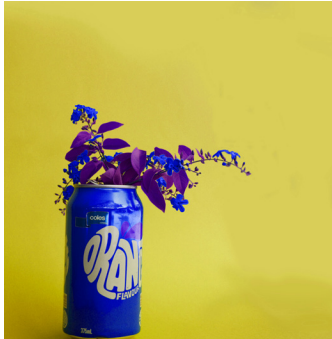
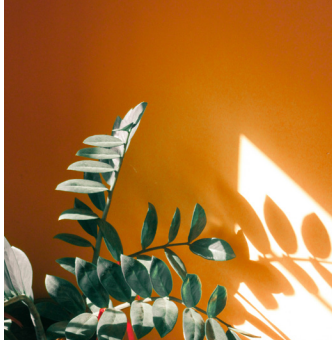
White is the go-to hue to create the illusion of space, but which shade of white is the best? It helps to know that not all whites are created equal. So to create the illusion of space always stick to the lighter end of the spectrum. **Keep the color pure, not muted or dirty.**



When you find your perfect white hue, then try to introduce a color into the space.

When you are pairing colors you always need to think in terms of three palettes, complementary, split complementary, and tonal.





While some colors naturally work well together, others can clash terribly.

So, the big question becomes, *how do you know which color pairings to incorporate in your home?* The best way to figure this out is to get very intimate with the colour wheel.

As a rule, it is best to pair complementary colors together, these are colors that sit opposite each other on the color wheel.

Pairing complementing colors can create a vibrant interior. Alternatively, choose colors on either side of your main color and then work within the different tones of that color.

Blue and green or orange and yellow always work well together.

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Color is not a one-size-fits-all kind of thing because what might work for one person might not work for someone else. The most important thing to remember for a decorating project, is to *develop a relationship with color* and to try and understand that each shade has a unique personality of its own. RED is a color full of adrenaline, the life of the party, while blue is serene and calm, and the minute you mix these colors the party really kicks off. If you are looking for a calm but yet feisty COBALT BLUE is the way to go because it takes on the energy of red.



Choose colors that work with the mood you are trying to create.

Sunny yellow are a great pick for a accent color in the kitchen because it is bright and happy and that is what you need to get your day started. A bright and happy boost with your morning coffee. If you like to create a more dramatic romantic vibe then black and navy will give that sense of broody, moody and romantic.

Along with the mood that you are trying to set in a space also keep in mind, how much natural light you get in that specific space. Avoid going to dark in a room that has not windows and gets to little natural light.

Color plays a big role in pattern mixing

Pattern mixing can be tricky, but when it is done correctly it can create such a WOW factor in your bed or living room. When mixing color and pattern it is best to keep your color palettes similiar. Scale is also important because larger scale prints work best on larger items like a sofa or curtains, while the smaller prints are great for chair slipper covers and pillows.

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Go big if you
are ready for
something bold

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